

Appl. No. 10/056,554
Reply to Final Office Action of February 16, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 42 ~~+~~, wherein the watchdog timer hardware unit resets further comprising resetting the first processor when the handshake signal is provided before a minimum time or after a maximum time.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 42 ~~+~~, further comprising means for disabling therapy output hardware when the first handshake signal is not provided within the first ~~prescribed~~ time interval.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 42 ~~+~~, further comprising a voltage monitor for detecting an abnormal power condition and disabling therapy output hardware in response to the abnormal power condition.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 42 ~~+~~, further comprising a voltage monitor for detecting a voltage of the medical device.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 5, further comprising means for selectively disabling therapy output hardware as a function of the detected voltage.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 42 ~~+~~, further comprising wherein the medical device comprises at least one of a therapy control module, a system controller, a user interface module, and a patient parameters module.

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 7, wherein the user interface module is communicatively coupled to at least one of a keyboard, a display screen, and a strip chart recorder.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim 7, wherein the patient parameters module is configured to obtain at least one of ECG information, vital sign measurements, non-invasive blood pressure (NIBP) measurements, and SpO₂ information from a patient.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator method of claim ~~42~~, wherein the external defibrillator medical device is an automated external defibrillator.

Claims 11-32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The external defibrillator medical device of claim ~~42~~ ²¹, further comprising a ~~third~~ functional module including a third ~~embedded~~ processor configured to generate ~~another~~ a third handshake signal, wherein the system control module ~~first embedded~~ processor includes another watchdog timer software process to receive the ~~another~~ third handshake signal and to reset the third ~~embedded~~ processor when the third handshake signal is not provided within a prescribed time interval.

Claim 34-41 (Canceled).

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Claim 42 (Currently Amended): An external defibrillator comprising:

a therapy control module to control delivery of defibrillation shocks to a patient, the therapy control module including a first processor that generates a first handshake signal and a watchdog timer hardware unit that resets the first processor when the first handshake signal is not generated within a first time interval specified by the first watchdog timer hardware unit; and

a system control module including a second processor to generate a second handshake signal,

wherein the therapy control module includes a watchdog timer software process on the first processor to reset the first processor when the second handshake signal is not generated within the first time interval.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The defibrillator of claim 42, wherein the system control module includes a second watchdog timer hardware unit to reset the second processor when the second handshake signal is not generated within a second time interval.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The defibrillator of claim 42, wherein the first watchdog timer hardware unit is a windowed watchdog timer hardware unit.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The defibrillator of claim 42, further comprising:

a user interface module to control input and output of information for an operator, the user interface module including a third processor that generates a third handshake signal,

wherein the system control module includes a second watchdog timer software process corresponding to the second watchdog timer hardware unit, the second watchdog timer software process resetting the third processor when the third handshake signal is not generated within the second time interval.

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Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The defibrillator of claim 42, further comprising:

a patient parameters module to process one or more physiological parameters of the patient, the patient parameters module including a third processor that generates a third handshake signal,

wherein the system control module includes a second watchdog timer software process corresponding to the second watchdog timer hardware unit, the second watchdog timer software process resetting the third processor when the third handshake signal is not generated within the second time interval.

Claim 47 (Canceled).

Claim 48 (Canceled).

Claim 49 (New): The defibrillator of claim 42, further comprising:

a user interface module to control input and output of information for an operator, the user interface module including a third processor that generates a third handshake signal,

wherein the system control module includes a second watchdog timer software process corresponding to the first watchdog timer hardware unit, the second watchdog timer software process resetting the third processor when the third handshake signal is not generated within the first time interval.

Claim 50 (New): The defibrillator of claim 42, further comprising:

a patient parameters module to process one or more physiological parameters of the patient, the patient parameters module including a third processor that generates a third handshake signal,

wherein the system control module includes a second watchdog timer software process corresponding to the first watchdog timer hardware unit, the second watchdog timer software process resetting the third processor when the third handshake signal is not generated within the first time interval.